

VZCZCXRO5096  
OO RUEHBZ RUEH DU RUEHGI RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN  
DE RUEH KI #0072 022111Z  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O R 221111Z JAN 10  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0052  
INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE  
SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC  
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC  
RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS KINSHASA 000072

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [KPKO](#) [CG](#)

SUBJECT: Obasanjo Advisor Briefs Goma-Based Diplomats

¶1. (U) General Lazaro Sumbeiywo, Special Advisor to UNSYG Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Olesgun Obasanjo, met with Goma-based diplomats on January 21, accompanied by former Tanzanian President Mkapa's adviser Daniel Kapya and UN political officer Luc Ngowet. The meeting took place on the eve of a January 22 meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (CNS) and prior to a January 23 meeting of Co-facilitators and Special Envoys to be held in Nairobi, which itself would result in recommendations to the AU summit in Addis Ababa.

¶2. (SBU) Describing his team as the eyes and ears of Obasanjo, Sumbeiywo said that the agreements reached between the GDRC and the CNDP on March 23, 2009, and reaffirmed on December 23, 2009, were "too good to be true." Although he had made it clear to the parties that he would be returning in January to review progress, Sumbeiywo had been disappointed, but not surprised, that the agreements had not been implemented. It was only through the insistence of his team, he said, that the CNS would take place. His team had met with traditional leaders, former armed groups, the CNDP, and others interested in the Congo. GDRC officials, he said, had arrived with "headaches" and GDRC lead negotiator Father Malu Malu was not expected to arrive until January 22.

¶3. (SBU) Sumbeiywo's assessment of the CNDP, was that they are frustrated, desperate, and engaging in reverse gear. He said that he had dined with President Kabila and the Deputy Foreign Minister the previous evening but, referring to his prior work in Somalia and Sudan, Sumbeiywo said "I don't understand the Congolese!"

¶4. (SBU) After soliciting the views of Goma-based diplomats, Sumbeiywo stated that GDRC calls for MONUC to "thin out" were premature and that following the Nairobi meeting of co-facilitators and envoys, there might be a recommendation to the AU's Peace and Security Council to issue a statement to that effect.

¶5. (SBU) Comment: The Obasanjo team is clearly frustrated by the slow pace of implementing the March 23 agreements. While implementation is stagnant, it does not necessarily portend slippage back into armed conflict. Rather, the various armed groups are maneuvering to try to obtain certain government positions and ranks. It is a complex shuffle, over which the GDRC is pondering carefully in an attempt to maintain some ethnic and regional balancing; hence the "headaches" on the GDRC side. Continued engagement by the co-facilitators and envoys remains welcome, both to prod the various sides along, but also as "an insurance policy," should the situation deteriorate. End comment.  
BROCK